

SGID Featured Map Data Layer: Surface Land Ownership

Contributed by Jessica Kirby
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In an effort to promote greater awareness, understanding, and use of Utah's State Geographic Information Database (SGID), the Utah GIS Portal will periodically feature important data layers.

Featured SGID GIS Data Layer: SGID93.CADASTRE.LandOwnership

General Information: As part of the state trust lands record keeping process, the State of Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA) maintains the surface landownership data for the entire state. The maintenance of the data is a state and federal collaboration streamlined by an ongoing cooperative effort with the Utah State Office of The Bureau of Land Management (BLM) and SITLA. The data displays all public lands, land status and areas of administration, for State, Federal and Tribal. By inference, all lands not public are private (which includes town, city, and county held properties).

Sub-queries can easily be made on this layer to display, for example:

- BLM, BOR, USFS, NPS, Fish/Wildlife, SITLA, State Sovereign Lands, Military, Tribal, and Bankhead Jones Act Land.
- National Parks, Monuments, State Parks, Wilderness Areas

Understanding and Access the Data: Utah's surface ownership is constantly changing and updates are frequent. Due to the dynamic nature of this layer, it is highly recommended to access the data using an SGID database connection, click [here](#) for instruction, to take full benefit of the update cycles. This data layer is intended to be used at scales no larger than 1:24K. The Owner, Agency, Administer and Designation attributes, attributed to each record, are meant to help the user decipher the appropriate owner, use and status of each parcel in the dataset. Bear in mind that this is not a complete list of all possible designations, new ones can and will be added to the list. These detailed attributes are meant to enhance the richness of the data set. For a detailed description of all the attributes, please reference the data layers metadata. State Trust Lands, Federal and National legends are provided to assist in symbolizing the data layer. It's recommended to reference state and federal standard ArcMap layerfiles for symbolizing the data. Label fields are also provided as to assist in queries and for labeling distinct features within the dataset.

An overview map of the general LandOwnership use displayed statewide is shown at right (click map image to enlarge).

Reference Base: The LandOwnership is currently aligned to the November 2006 version of the geographic coordinates representing the BLM Geographic Coordinate Data Base (GCDB) survey-based corners. Adjustments are integrated into the LandOwnership as newer versions of the GCDB become available and as time allows. The goal is to achieve a visual "best fit". More information about the GCDB can be found at <http://www.blm.gov/wo/st/en/prog/more/gcdb.html>. It is important to note that the GCDB is being constantly updated to better positional accuracy (i.e. new county control or resurveyed corner points); due to these frequent updates discrepancies between complementary datasets (i.e. county data, road, aerial photography, etc) is likely. As the updated corner locations and control are delivered and published into the GCDB, the LandOwnership layer will be integrated to reflect these changes.

Update Cycle: The LandOwnership data is updated weekly within an edit database housed at SITLA and is published monthly to the AGRC SGID and the BLM's Data download page. Please be aware that the monthly publish to the SGID and the BLM LandOwnership is on no specific day, it's whenever the administrator can get it updated, so there may be inconsistencies between layers due to different update intervals. As mentioned above it is highly recommended to access the data using an SGID database connection to assist in limiting this inconsistency and ensure that each user will be viewing the most currently published version. If ever in doubt, please do not hesitate to request the data directly from the GIS group at SITLA for the "latest and greatest" up-to-date layer. SITLA strives to publish the very best and most positional accurate surface LandOwnership data possible for the State of Utah. That being said, we realize that it is impossible to have every parcel correct and we encourage users to inform us of gross discrepancies. While SITLA does verify data for accuracy and content with each update, we assume no responsibility for errors or omissions.

Formal Disclaimer: The LandOwnership data is for REFERENCE USE ONLY and is NOT to be used in place of a legal land survey! The Utah School and Institutional Trust Lands Administration (SITLA) IT/GIS Department assumes no responsibility for errors or omissions in these materials. Land parcels may have been adjusted to align with associated digital features (i.e. GCDB PLSS lines, digital imagery, roads) or other tie points in order to allow for visual "best fit". While SITLA seeks to verify data for accuracy and content, discrepancies may exist within the data. SITLA hereby disclaims any and all liability due to the use or misuse of this map and the data represented on this map. The user assumes total responsibility for verification and use.

